

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

No. 19, Volume 7, New Series.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT,
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C. W. Coffell,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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P O E T R Y .

THE MISSISSIPPI.

BY D. T. CUSHING.

A song for the Mississippi, now—
A song for the brave old stream;
As he dashes forth with a crown of spray
In the morning's early beam;
He hath issued forth from the chilly north,
'Mid the forest deep and hoar,
And in pomp he flows, like a king that goes
To conquer a distant shore!

As he rushes along, the waters come
To mix with its glittering train,
They have heard the boom of his mighty drum;
And hurry from hill and plain;

Missouri speeds from the far, far west,
And Ohio's billows play,
As with heaving breast and a glittering crest,
She joins in the march away!

A song for the brave old river raise!

What changes hath he seen,
Since first he flowed, in solitude,
Through valleys fresh and green;

Since rainbow-spanned, from God's own hand

He dashed along the plain,
To bear his part, with a lofty heart,

To his grey-haired sire—the main!

Long by his brink so beautiful
No living creature stood,
Save the herded deer, that lingered near,
And the dark wolf's howling brood;

Then there came a race from a distant place,
To build on a fruitful shore,

But their bounds alone tell of nations gone,
And their story lives no more.

Then the sound of war 'mid the deep woods,
And echoed o'er the flood,
And the river's face bore the crimson hue,
And the red leaves of autumn were to be seen;

Offices already; nobody requested you to do
anything; you had better mind your own busi-

ness?"

"Why, my pretty dear," said he, patting her
on the cheek, "what I have done has been all
in the way of business, and if you do not like to
wait for three publications, I advise you sir,
turning to the gentleman, 'to procure the illi-
cense, the ring, and the fee, and then the whole
matter may be settled as soon as tomorrow.'"

"Well," replied the gentleman addressing the
widow, "with your permission, I will get them,
and we will be married in a day or two."

"Oh, you may both do as you please," petish-
ly, yet nothing loth, replied the lady.

It was but a day or two after the license was
procured, and the parson received his fee, the
bridegroom his bride, and the widow for the last
time, threw her gloves over the back of the pew,
and it was afterwards said that the parties were
satisfied with their guns.

THE BOROUGH'S CAVE IN THE GREEN
MOUNTAINS. We find in one of our exchange-
es the annexed account of the cave amongst the
beautiful mountains of Vermont, which was
once the place of seclusion of the notorious coun-
terfeiter—Stephen Burroughs. It is a remark-
able cave, and will ever have an unpleasant as-
sociation as being the den of villainy.

"We visited a cave located in a spur of the
Green Mountains in this vicinity as the 'Cognac Den,' ('Cognac' being the term used
here to designate counterfeiters,) and though I
have visited most of the remarkable spots in N.
England, I am fain to confess that this exceeds
them all. It is composed of four compartments—
the outer one being in the form of an ellipse,
52 feet by 37, and 19 feet in height; second com-
partment is somewhat smaller than the first and
of a more irregular form, and so also is the third;
the fourth is the grandest hall that I ever be-
held, and of circular form, the diameter of which
is 321 feet, over-arched by a magnificient dome,
the extreme height of which apparently exceeds
the diameter of the floor; the walls are composed
of brilliant iron ore, and the light of our bark
torches was reflected in a thousand hues, light-
ing the whole with the brightness of a summer's day. The regularity of the walls could not
have been improved by art. In this cave the
notorious Stephen Burroughs carried on his il-
legal occupation for some years. The villain
had a good eye for the beautiful—there is no
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Burroughs preached his father's old sermons
of a Sunday, and engraved plates for counter-
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a book detailing his life and made money by the
proceeds. His daughter is still in a minority in
Three Rivers. Burroughs' last days were spent
in comparative honesty. The cave described above
was long occupied by the extraordinary
personage.

Then a song for thee, thou river grand!
Thou sire of a watery host!
We bid thee go in thy glorious flow
Like a king through his empire coast!
Like a king thou art, and in future time
Like a crowned king shalt be—
Go on, then, go, in thy marsh sublime—
Go on the sounding sea!
Mississippi River, March 10, 1847.

Why can deaf and dumb persons be heard
further than those who can hear and talk? Be-
cause actions speak louder than words.

PARIS, MAINE, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1847.

Old Series, No. 20, Volume 16.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LUDICROUS CIRCUMSTANCE IN CHURCH.

Speaking of the first impression at church, brings to mind a ludicrous circumstance that happened some fifty or sixty years ago at church. The rector, though a man of profound learning and a profound theologian, was of such eccentric habits, as often to create a doubt among the congregants whether he was at all times *compos mentis*. The time for capturing slaves extends over a period of about ten weeks, and never commences until the male and female are about emerging from the pupa state; and thus the ruthless marauders never interfere with the continuation of the species. This instinct seems specially provided; for were the slave-ants created for no other end than to fill the station of slavery to which they appear to be doomed, still even that office must fail were the attacks to be made upon their nest before the winged myriads have departed, charged with the duty of continuing their kind. When the red ants are about on a marauding expedition they send scouts to ascertain the exact position in which a colony of negroes may be found. These scouts having discovered the objects of their search, return to their nests and report their success. Shortly afterwards the army of red ants marches forth, headed by a vanguard, which is perpetually changing, the individuals which constitute it, when they have advanced a little before the main body, halting, falling into the rear, and being replaced by others. The vanguard consists of eight or ten ants only. When they have arrived near the negro colony they disperse, wandering through the herbage and hunting about, as aware of the propinquity of the object of their search, yet ignorant of its exact position. At last they discover the settlements; and the foremost of the invaders, rushing impetuously to the attack, are met, grappled with, and frequently killed by the negroes on guard. The alarm is quickly communicated to the interior of the nest, the negroes sail forth by thousands; and the red ants rushing to the rescue, a desperate conflict ensues; which, however, always terminates in the defeat of the negroes, who retire to the innermost recesses of their habitation. Now follows the scene of pillage.

The sermon preached and the service ended, away to the vestry rushed the parties at the heels of the pastor.

"Who authorized you, sir, to make such a publication of the bans?" demanded they both in one breath.

"Authorized me?" said he, with as tame, which heightened the confusion.

"Yes, sir, authorized you?"

"Oh!" said the minister, with a sly glance alternately at each; "if you don't approve of it, I'll forbid the bans next Sunday."

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INSECT SLAVERY. The most remarkable fact connected with the history of ants, is the propensity possessed by certain species to kidnap the workers of other species and compel them to labor for the benefit of the community, thus using them completely as slaves; and as far as we yet know, the kidnappers are red, or pale-colored ants, and the slaves, like the ill-treated natives of Africa, are of a jet black.—The time for capturing slaves extends over a period of about ten weeks, and never commences until the male and female are about emerging from the pupa state; and thus the ruthless marauders never interfere with the continuation of the species. This instinct seems specially provided; for were the slave-ants created for no other end than to fill the station of slavery to which they appear to be doomed, still even that office must fail were the attacks to be made upon their nest before the winged myriads have departed, charged with the duty of continuing their kind. When the red ants are about on a marauding expedition they send scouts to ascertain the exact position in which a colony of negroes may be found. These scouts having discovered the objects of their search, return to their nests and report their success. Shortly afterwards the army of red ants marches forth, headed by a vanguard, which is perpetually changing, the individuals which constitute it, when they have advanced a little before the main body, halting, falling into the rear, and being replaced by others. The vanguard consists of eight or ten ants only. When they have arrived near the negro colony they disperse, wandering through the herbage and hunting about, as aware of the propinquity of the object of their search, yet ignorant of its exact position. At last they discover the settlements; and the foremost of the invaders, rushing impetuously to the attack, are met, grappled with, and frequently killed by the negroes on guard. The alarm is quickly communicated to the interior of the nest, the negroes sail forth by thousands; and the red ants rushing to the rescue, a desperate conflict ensues; which, however, always terminates in the defeat of the negroes, who retire to the innermost recesses of their habitation. Now follows the scene of pillage.

IMPORTANT FACTS.

The relative nutritive and digestive qualities of the food we eat are matters which concern the health of every individual. Various experiments and analyses have been made by competent persons to determine these points, and the result of them appears to be as follows.—Wheat is the most nutritious of all substances, except oil, containing ninety-five parts of nutriment to one part of waste matter. Dry peas, nuts and barley are nearly as nutritious as wheat. Garden vegetables stand lowest on the list, inasmuch as they contain, when fresh, a large portion of water. Having fallen a tree he drove the team alongside, and commenced chopping it up. By an unlucky hit he brought the whole bit of the axe across his foot, with a sidelong stroke. The immense gash so alarmed him as to deprive him of all strength. He felt the warm blood filling his shoe. With great difficulty he succeeded in rolling himself off to the sled, and started the oxen for home. As soon as he reached the door he called eagerly for help. His terrified wife and daughter with much effort lifted him into the house, as he was wholly unable to help himself, saying his foot was nearly severed from his leg. He was laid carefully on the bed, groaning all the while very bitterly. His wife hastily prepared dressings and removed the shoe and sock, expecting to see a desperate wound, when lo! the skin was not even broken. Before going out in the morning he wrapped his feet in red flannel, to protect them from the cold: the gash had this effect to his view, and he thought it flesh and blood. His reason not correcting the mistake, all the pain and loss of power which attended a real wound followed. Man often suffers more from imaginary evils than from real ones.

OF ALL THE ARTICLES OF FOOD, BOILED RICE IS DIGESTED IN THE SHORTEST TIME—AN HOUR. As it also contains eight-tenths of nutritious matter, it is a valuable substance of diet. Tripe and pig's feet (strange to tell) are digested almost as rapidly. Apples, if sweet and ripe, are next in order. Venison is digested almost as soon as apples. Roasted potatoes are digested in half the time required by the same vegetables boiled, which occupy three hours and a half—more than beef or mutton. Stewed oysters and boiled eggs are digested in three hours and a half—an hour more than is required by the same articles raw. Turkey and goose are converted in two hours. Cutlets, "roasten veal, pork, and salted beef" occupy five hours and a half the longest of all articles of food.

COLT'S REVOLVERS.

This is the great military invention of the age. Its introduction into the United States service is an interesting as well as amusing piece of history, and is given with piquancy by the intelligent N. Y. correspondent of the Charleston Evening News in these terms:—

"You may remember, that some years ago, the Texas navy was furnished with a supply of Colt's repeating pistols. When the navy was laid up, these arms were given to the mounted riflemen. It was by the aid of these that the Texans on the frontier were enabled to gain decisive victories over many times their numbers of Camanches, who considered themselves equal to the Texans, man to man. Both Col. Hays and Capt. Walker owe their lives to Colt's repeaters, and they declare it to be the most perfect arm in the world. The blade is short and strongly made, but appears to be good steel; the hilt, & handle, is covered with a piece of buck horn, and the guard is made of iron wrought out to the thickness of one eighth of an inch.

"It was the first, and for a long time the only sword, was in Kentucky; at the battle of Blue Licks it was the only one in possession of the whites. It was afterwards lost in the Licking River by Col. Todd where it lay for several years, but was finally recovered, and identified by Mr. Todd as the same sword which his husband had borne at the battle of Daniel Boone. *Collegian's Messenger.*

DANIEL BOONE'S SWORD. We have in our possession at this office, the identical sword used by Daniel Boone, in his many battles with the Indians in Ohio and Kentucky. It is rough looking piece of furniture. The blade is short and roughly made, but appears to be good steel; the hilt, & handle, is covered with a piece of buck horn, and the guard is made of iron wrought out to the thickness of one eighth of an inch.

"It was the first, and for a long time the only sword, was in Kentucky; at the battle of Blue Licks it was the only one in possession of the whites.

"I will fire a buck," said he, "at one hundred yards distance, and the ball passed through his head just back of the ear."

"This evidently produced some little doubt in the minds of his guests; he called upon Sambo to corroborate him.

"Sambo, massa," said the almost confounded slave, after a moment's hesitation, "me see do ball hit 'm. Just as massa lit up de gun to be in eye, de buck lit up him foot to scratch him ear, an' massa's ball go clear through him foot an' head at the same time."

"The guests were perfectly satisfied with Sambo's explanation, and swallowed the whole without further hesitation, but when his guests were mounted men up to the date of conversation prior to the battle of Buena Vista, not a single

cut had been inflicted by an American from horse back, nor had one mounted rider a shot from any weapon save the pistol. These facts tell of the value of Colt's repeating pistols in actual service. It should be recollect that the motion caused by the breathing of a horse alone prevents the possibility of "drawing a bead" with a rifle, without which that weapon is by no means as useful as an ordinary fowling piece. There is however, a very strong prejudice against revolvers among the officers attached to the Ordnance Bureau; which, until Walker the Texan Ranger, prevailed on the President and Secretary of War to thus arm his regiment, had prevented their adoption in the United States service.

POWER OF IMAGINATION. An honest New England farmer started out very cold day in winter, with his sled and oxen into the forest a half a mile from home for the purpose of chopping some wood. Having fallen a tree he drove the team alongside, and commenced chopping it up. By an unlucky hit he brought the whole bit of the axe across his foot, with a sidelong stroke. The immense gash so alarmed him as to deprive him of all strength. He felt the warm blood filling his shoe. With great difficulty he succeeded in rolling himself off to the sled, and started the oxen for home. As soon as he reached the door he called eagerly for help. His terrified wife and daughter with much effort lifted him into the house, as he was wholly unable to help himself, saying his foot was nearly severed from his leg.

"Well when Jiral Scott is givin any whar or going to do any ting, he gets himself ready fit, and Jiral Taylor, he is always ready and ruff too! yah! yah!"

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A friend has sent us a copy of the Lynn Pic-
ture containing the following humorous ac-
count of "Things down East," accompanied by
a very polite request that it might be inserted
in the Democrat. We do so cheerfully, and
doubt not it will provoke many a hearty laugh
from our readers in this vicinity.

"THINGS DOWN EAST."

DEAR CHRISTOPHER.—I wish you could
see Oxford county. It is a great country and
nothing shorter! Great idea every sense of the
term. More land by at least one half, than in
the same number of square miles in and about
Old Lynn, with its flat marshes and level plains.
Never the land rises so high and so abruptly,
that one side hill will make two farms! And
then such scenery as we have. "O my!"—would
do you good just to imagine it, to say nothing of
your looking at it. Go then with me, my more
than brother, on to the top of Waterville's
"Mount Tread," and turn thine eyes westward!
Say, saw you ever sight more grand?
"What hills are they?" What hills can they be
but the hills of the "everlasting hills" of New Hampshire? Yes, Christopher, there are
the "White Hills and nothing shorter." Look
beautiful in the distance? You may safely
say that so beautiful that one can scarcely ever
worry of looking at them. Nothing delights
me more than to climb this grassy height. Stand
upon the wooden steps on its summit and watch
the gilding of those tops of creation by the setting
sun. Then it is I feel inspired, if ever,
and I nevered to deeds of noble daring; and as
I withdraw my enraptured gaze from the noble
sight, I sweep the horizon and think I see the
resting place of the "Old Man of the Mountain,"
and imagine with kindling pride and pleasure
that the spirit of him I loved so well in the flesh
is also enjoying with me the beatuous panorama.
Oh, beautiful spirit of the noblest of men,
even thy intangible presence is more precious
to me than nearly might still bear human
form! Oh my God, where wilt thou ransack
the world another Rogers? Come gently down
the mountain now and go with me to "Elm Vale,"
some two miles hence or so—step into the door
of this venerable yellow mansion, half covered
over with woodland green, turn thine eyes towards
yon beatuous little lake, by those mighty
hills surrounded, isn't that a sight to behold?
Didst thou ever behold a lovelier scene? I
ken'd full well you'd say, no, never, never.
How prettily that ingreal moving slopes to the
lake, and how boldly those mountains arise, and
how majestically graceful those elms appear.
The great, the good, and the highly gilded have
stood where we now stand and viewed this ges-
tuous scene; and each and every one with us
exclaimed, "beautiful, beautiful, beautiful!"

Jump now, if you please, dear friend o'mine,
into my one house, shay' and go with me to Paris,
the shire and center of Democratic Oxford.
"Hilly" you say? Well, it is rather up-
ish, but then, such views, as we get from their
summits. Paris lies some fifteen miles from
the proud "shire" with its Court-houses and its
somewhat lengthened line of buildings—like
unto a city upon an hill! The first town we
come to is Norway, a town of some note in these
parts and very prettily situated and laid out
within, numbering two thousand or more inhabitants,
and celebrated as the residence of the man with
the "shocking bad hat" and nose, and
"agent" for all the things saleable under the
sun. Considerable business besides farming
is done in this town, especially at "Steep Falls."
Three miles of therabouts further on, and we come
to "Paris Cope," so called, said to be the
largest village in the county, and is an active
business place, there being a woolen factory
and foundry, manufactory of ploughs, &c., &
a lawyer good-enough for anybody. Two
or three miles more and we reach "the Hill"—
Paris Hill has long been celebrated as the head-
quarters of law and literature in old Oxford;—
also as the whilom place of residence of some of
the greatest men the State ever knew, among
others may be mentioned Governors Lincoln
and Parris. Some of the best legal talent of
the State reside here, one of the oldest and
best among it—done the State some service
as Counsellor that past season to His Excellency.
On Paris Hill, you will find "good society"
at any town can boast, big or small, far as
they go. They are rather old fashioned in re-
gion, sticking to the faith once delivered to the
saints and preached by Parson Hooper, a good
old Baptist preacher, who dealt out to the Par-
sons for fifty years or more, what he called "the
bread of life," though some impious souls have
boldly asserted that his bread was always a little
wasty! Be that as it may, he was a fine old
man, and I shall always respect him, for he was
the grand conjunction between me and Mrs. Neogs!—God bless him. He was a character,
and well do I remember how funny he looked
when he came into meeting, as was his wont,
with his old cotton handmada tied over his head
to keep his ears warm, as in those days they
thought not of warming the "house of God," and
the minister did not stand for looks, but would
hurry along through the aisle, and if, as was the
case in very cold weather, there were but few
heavers, he would make short work of his pulpit
services; read a hymn and under a prayer and
"amen." The old man had a mortal hatred of
the Devil, and always contrived in his prayers
to express more or less of it, and sometimes
would importune the Lord with great vehem-
ence to "blast the English power." A very
determined man was parson Hooper, and you
will as well as tried to turn him from a way of his
own. A man tried to get him to sign the
Washington pledge, when it first became
fashionable to do so, representing how it looked
for a minister of the Most High not to be on the
pledge, &c. &c.: but the old man was set to be

moved. He didn't care for looks, not he—he
faced a whole congregation of "gentle people"
with his "cotton handmada" on his head, his
woollen mittens on, and boldly relaxed them
all for their shortcomings. It was, of course, no
use to talk to such a man about looks. "No
says he, "if the angel Gabriel should come down
and tell me to sign it, I wouldn't do it." Father
Hooper, though sometimes severe, was lenient
on the whole. One of his parishioners entered
what he considered a gross complaint against
one of his deacons this day, assuring that Dea-
con so and so, had been found guilty of stealing
a fox-trap, and wanted the old man to turn him
out of the church. "Pooh pooh," the old man
said, "turn out a man for such a thing as that,
we shouldn't have any church long!" Poor old
soul, he's dead and gone, peace to his memory, and
long life to his successor, who is considered by
his people to be a nice good man. He dif-
fers somewhat from his illustrious predecessor in
some of his views. He don't believe in dogs
coming to meeting. The Hooperites say, that their dogs
used to get as much good by going as they did.
Perhaps they did—who knows?

Yours, &c. &c. NOGGS."

RHODE ISLAND.

Nothing has recently occurred, has more
mortified our whig friends in this quarter, than
their defeat in Rhode Island. We really feel
for them, as heavy is their disappointment.
Rhode Island has all along been regarded, as
one of the safest States; and they have relied
with absolute certainty upon her vote for their
Presidential candidate, should the election be
carried into the House. True, they were aware
that there had been divisions among the Rhode
Island whigs, but recent events had led them to
believe that they were healed, and that a tri-
umph in the western district was a matter be-
yond any rational doubt. So they prepared
themselves for a victory, which has made their
defeat all the more bitter. That which galls
them more than all other things combined, is
the election of a democrat in the home of Gov.
Dorr. They cannot bear that great man and
self sacrificing patriot should be cheered by be-
holding his native State doing something to en-
hance the cause of liberal principles. Their
victory is lost to Mr. Windham, their intended can-
didate for the speakership of the United States
House of Representatives. Take it for all in all,
the whigs haven't felt worse since Mr. Dallas
gave his casting vote against the tariff of '42—
the whigs of Massachusetts, we mean, as those
of other States will only feel their loss in Rhode
Island politically, while ours feel it as a personal
matter. They should regard it as a beginning
of the end, and a forewarning of the national
defeat which awaits them next year.—Our
advice to them, is to take it coolly, as there
are plenty "more of the same sort" coming along
for their especial benefit.

Many of our contemporaries, in speaking of
the next House of Representatives do so in terms
of "no better chance," "no worse," and cannot
have any such majority. The tooting in their
States which have chosen whig majorities in
their congressional delegation:—

Vermont, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Dela-
ware, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania,
Kentucky, Florida, North Carolina, and Ohio.
Here we have these States save for the whig
Presidential candidate, counting Florida among
the number, though we understand the member
from that State to be pledged to vote in the
House, as his State shall vote at the popular
election, which at least gives us an even chance
for his voice with the whigs. Of the States
which are yet to elect members of Congress the
Whigs can count with anything like confidence
only upon Maryland, and they are not sure of
her. But even if they should keep Florida, and
carry three other States, they would not be able
to elect their candidate in the House, as they
then would have only fourteen States, and with-
out scarcely any of the same sort, coming along
for their especial benefit.

Many of our contemporaries, in speaking of
the next House of Representatives do so in terms
of "no better chance," "no worse," and cannot
have any such majority. The tooting in their
States which have chosen whig majorities in
their congressional delegation:—

—Nevada, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Dela-
ware, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania,
Kentucky, Florida, North Carolina, and Ohio.

Thus the Democrats are certain of the
same number as the Whigs, allowing Florida to
the latter. Mississippi, Louisiana, and Maine will
most probably be ours, also will be Wisconsin
should she come into the confederacy. Mary-
land, in that event, will decide whether the
Democrats shall or not have the House. The
Whigs cannot have without carrying every
State yet to elect members. [Boston Daily
Times.]

THE LETHION AND AMPUTATING. A large
number of persons assembled at the Washington
Medical College, yesterday, to witness the ampu-
tation of a limb whilst the patient was under
the effects of *lettuce*. The patient was a colored
man, whose leg was so diseased that it became
necessary to amputate it to save his life. Dr.
Leach was present to administer the letchion
and the patient after being prepared had it ad-
ministered to him. After inhaling a consider-
able quantity, by a sudden effort he dashed the
tube away from his mouth, and the effects of the
lettuce thereby removed. He stated that he
believed himself whilst under the effects to have
been under the effects of "Old Nick," which was
a most terrible pain, with any quantity of fire,
and that rather than take letchion again, with a
prospect of being similar sights, he would die.

SINGULAR. We are informed that the
Emile Rose Capt. Grimes from this port for
New York with 500 lbs. of powder on board
was struck by lightning on Tuesday night while
passing near Saybrook. The lightning shivered
the mast and passed off laterally without ig-
niting the powder or doing any other serious
injury. A more惊险的 stroke of the electric fluid is seldom made. [Hart Courant]

IMPROVED METHOD OF TEMPERING TOOLS. Mr. Alfred V. Newton, of the Patent Office, Chancery Lane, has taken out a patent for an apparatus for an apparatus for tempering edges tools. For heating axes or other similar articles, a heating furnace is constructed in the form of a vertical cylinder the exterior made of sheet iron lined with

fire brick 4 ft. 8 in. diameter or of such outside

diameter as to give an inside one of 4 ft. and 5 ft.

In the interior of this cylinder, several

fire chambers are formed, usually four; the in-

terior wall of each fire chamber is 18 in. long, 4

in. from front to back, and about 4 in. in depth,

forming in the whole a circle of 3 ft. 4 in. diam-

eter; under each there are grate bars, and air

is supplied through a pipe, connected with a

blowing apparatus. A circular table of cast iron

3 ft. 4 in. diameter is made to revolve slowly on

a level with the upper part of the said chamber,

this table is sustained on a central shaft, which

passes down through the furnace, and has its

bearing in a step below it; a pulley keyed on

it serves to communicate rotary motion to the

table. When the axes or other articles are to be

heated, they are placed upon the table with

their bits or stevedore parts projecting so far over

its edge as to bring them directly over the cen-

tre of the fire, and the table is kept slowly re-

volving during the whole time of heating.

When duly heated, they are ready for the pro-

cess of hardening. The hardening bath consists

of a circular vat of salt water; within the tub

or vat, a little above the surface of the liquid, is

a wheel mounted horizontally, with a number of

hooks around the periphery, upon which the

axes or other articles are suspended; the height

of the hooks from the surface of the liquid is

such as to allow the stevedore part only to be im-

mersed; as soon as the hardening is effected,

the articles are removed from the hooks, and

cooled by dipping in cold water. With the best

cast steel a temperature of 310 deg. Fahr. has

been found to produce a good result in harden-

ing in about 45 minutes.

MISTAKES ABOUT FLOUR.

Many persons have entertained a notion that
flour would not keep more than one or two
years, or was not so good when older. This
is a mistake. If it is ground from ripe, sound, dry
wheat and put up in dry tight barrels it will
keep almost indefinitely. The following account
from a Miller in the western part of New York,
will confirm the fact.

He ground from old wheat many barrels of
flour, a cart load of which he sent to a landing
place several miles off, where he never sent any
more, and not being sold, it was covered up with
other things and forgotten. Twenty years after
the store-house was taken down and the flour
discovered, as sound and sweet as when it came
from the mill.

Also that flour on being compressed in the
hand will adhere together closely in lumps, is
not, as has been generally supposed, an infallible
test of its goodness, as it may be good if it does
not form readily in water water is good and
perfect starch, the flour is good, for its goodness
consists altogether in that.

THE POSITION OF THE ARMY.

The mail brings us the news of the New Orleans
Picayune Extra of the 9th ult., which asser-

ts the safety of the alliance under the gallant
Twigs which had reached Ayuda; a small town
about 1500 inhabitants, some 20 miles west or
beyond the pass of the Rio Frio, and about the
same distance from the city of Mexico. Gen.
Twigs is said to have reached his present pos-

ition on the seventh, about midday. As Gen.

Scott left Palma with the 2d Division, on the

8th, he would be near enough to the assistance to

prevent its surprise, and the opinion is, that the

vanguard itself encamped within half a mile

of Mexico on the 21st—the first view of its mag-

nificent action being obtained at Tezcuco on

sixty-four miles eastward.

The army having very heavy artillery trains,

it was intended to make easy marches, and no

resistance was anticipated short of the capital.

But it is believed that the preparations for

defence were extreately and fully made; and

being the test and which the enemy would

expect over to make against our arms, and their

ability to be proportionately desperate.

We agree with an contemporary that the details

of the telegraph from Mexico furnish

an excellent opportunity to have a good

account of the progress of the war.

THE STOVES IN MEETING HOUSE. The follow-

ing anecdote was related by the celebrated

"Father Taylor," in the course of a recent lecture:

fashioned meeting houses, with their pews like

pegs, and their pulpits perched up at an elevation

which placed them without the pale of hu-

man sympathy: and when a fire for the purpose

of warming a church was a thing unheard of

that some of the enterprising young men who

had worshipped in such a church determined to

have the house warmed by stoves. But the pro-

ject encountered the most violent and virulent

opposition from the old people. They declared

that it should not be; that stoves were not a

good ordinance,"—that the congregation must

suffocate. The young men, however, prevailed;

and one Sabbath the congregation held in the

church two formidable black stoves with the

pipes traversing the entire length of the house.

Poetry.

LAMENT OF THE IRISH EMIGRANT.

I'm sitting on the stile, Mary,
Where we sat side by side.
On a bright May morning, long ago,
When first you were my bride.
The corn was springing fresh and green,
And the lark sang loud and high,
And the red was on thy lip, Mary,
And the love light in your eye.

The place is little changed, Mary,
The day is bright as then—
The lark's loud song is in my ear,
And the corn is green again.
But I miss the soft clasp of your hand,
And your breath warm on my cheek;
And I still keep listening for the words
You never more may speak.

Tis but a step down yonder lane,
And the little church stands near—
The church where we were wed, Mary,
I see the spire from here:
But the grave-yard lies between, Mary,
And my step might break your rest;
For I've laid you, darling, down to sleep,
With your baby on your breast.

I'm very lonely now, Mary,
For the poor make no new friends;
But oh! they love the better, far,
The few our father sends.
And you were all I had, Mary,
My blessing and my pride;
There's nothing left to care for, now,
Since my poor Mary died.

Your's was the good, brave heart, Mary,
That still kept hoping on,
When the trust in God had left my soul,
And my arm's young strength was gone.
There was comfort ever on your lip,
And the kind look on your brow:
I blessed you, Mary, for that same,
Though you can't hear me now.

I thank you for the patient smile,
When your heart was fit to break—
When the hunger pain was knowing there,
And you hid it for my sake.
I bless you for the pleasant word,
When your heart was sad and sore:
Oh! I'm thankful you are gone, Mary,
Whose grief can't reach you more.

I'm bidding you a long farewell,
My Mary, kind and true,
But I'll not forget you, my darling,
In the land I'm going to.
They say there's bread and work for all,
And the sun shines always there—
But I'll not forget old Ireland,
Were it fifty times as fair.

And often, in those grand old woods,
I'll sit and shut my eyes—
And my heart will travel back again
To the place where Mary lies.
And I'll think I see the little stile
Where we sat side by side.
And the springing corn, and the bright May
When first you were my bride. —Morn.

CELEBRATED CHOLERA MIXTURE, AN EFFECTUAL JEWELRY FOR CHOLERA, DYSENTERY, DIARRHEA, And Bowel Complaints generally.

PREPARED AND SOLD BY
Pike & Osgood,

At 79 & 81 Blackstone Street, Boston, Mass.

NOR all the purposes for which this remedy is designed, it stands before the Publick prominently without a rival. It is based on a thorough knowledge of the Physiological state of the system in Cholera, Dysentery, &c., and is a specific combination of remedies, which are admirably adapted to the effectual and speedy restoration of the patient, whether the disease originates from obstructed Perspiration, Worms, Excess, or Defection, or from a vitiated state of the stomach and bowels. It acts directly on every part of the system, producing a habitual effect, removing all the secretions and excretions, and restoring all the diseased organs of the body to their normal state.

For CHOLERA INFANTUM, which sweeps many children, annually, to an untimely grave, it is said to be the best, and ought to be without its like. —60 cents per bottle.

Sale by CHAS. L. FRANCIS and ROY'S NOTES, Norway Village.

Aug. 12, 1847. —15

Buckfield Branch Rail Road.

NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to the provisions of an Act of the Legislature of Maine passed July 20, 1847, entitled an Act to establish the Buckfield Branch Rail Road, Books of Subscriptions and Capital Stock of said Company will be opened under the direction of the Comptroller in said Act on Saturday the 21st day of August instant, at 9 o'clock A. M., and that the same will remain open ten successive days thereafter in the following places, viz.—

BUCKFIELD, at the Store of E. Atwood & Co. Messrs. Atwood & Co., Portland.

PORTLAND, at C. S. Marshall's Office.

Per Order.

August 9th, 1847.

Strayed or Stolen.

FROM the pasture of the subscriber on the 1st inst., a black STEER, three years old, very fat, weight about 1,000 lbs., 30 inches high, who will return said Steer or give information where he may be found, shall be suitably rewarded. CHARLES E. CUMMINGS, Paris Hill, August 3, 1847. —13

Notice.

THIS may certify that I have given my son JAMES R. BROWN, a full account of his services for himself, and shall claim none of his earnings and pay no debts of his contracting after this date. HOWELL BYRNEON.

Summer, July 31, 1847. —13

C. W. WALTON,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

MEXICO, MAINE.

A Prime Assortment of Blanks, printed

in good paper, kept constantly in stock.

Books of Law, Dec. 25, 1847. —13

BLANKS.

A prime Assortment of Blanks, printed

in good paper, kept constantly in stock.

Books of Law, Dec. 25, 1847. —13

Fire Insurance.

THE undersigned having given special attention to the subject of Insurance, and having made arrangements with several of the best Mutual Companies, is now prepared to take risks on the most favorable terms, on all classes of Property insurance on the Mutual Principle.

THE THOMASTON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, of Thomaston, Me., is nearly 20 years old, and for the Farmers and the safe class of Buildings and contents, is very safe and economical. It insures 2½ times the value of the Building, not less than six feet from a large crooked Birch tree, or to a point further down said stream at the option of the contractor.

Said road to be made in the following manner, viz:

1. To be made straight as may be upon an uniform grade between said pine tree and birch tree, and if extended down the stream below the birch tree, not to exceed, at any place, the average elevation between those points.

2. The travel path to be at least twenty feet wide inside the fence, leaving the same clear of trees, and at the second fence, where the same may be reduced to a width of less than sixteen feet.

3. The outside of said road, wherever there is a ledge on which to found the same, to be built up with a permanent wall, to be raised to a level with the travel path, and to be slightly dimmed in at the corners, so as to be safe for the road; also to make across the road between the curvets to turn the water to the ditch on the inside.

4. The ROCKINGHAM M. F. I. CO., of Exeter, N. H., embraces the like risks; also Shops, Mills, Factories, and Manufacturing Establishments of some kind, but except those of Cotton and Wool. Its Policies range from \$5 to 25 per cent. per year.

THE ATLANTIC M. F. I. CO., of Salem, Mass., insures all the risks usually insured in Stock Companies. This company insures 2½ times the value of the Building, and 1½ times the value of the contents.

THE HORSEY M. F. I. CO., of Salem, Mass., insures the same kinds of property, but excludes Mills and nearly all risks usually insured in Stock Companies. This company insures 2½ times the value of the Building, and 1½ times the value of the contents.

THE BOVINGTON M. F. I. CO., of London, England, insures Risks; also Shops, Mills, Factories, and Manufacturing Establishments of some kind, but except those of Cotton and Wool. Its Policies range from \$5 to 25 per cent. per year.

THE ATLANTIC M. F. I. CO., of Exeter, N. H., takes the like risks; also Cotton and Woolen Mills, and nearly all risks usually insured in Stock Companies. This company insures 2½ times the value of the Building, and 1½ times the value of the contents.

THE HORSEY M. F. I. CO., of Salem, Mass., insures the same kinds of property, but excludes Mills and nearly all risks usually insured in Stock Companies. This company insures 2½ times the value of the Building, and 1½ times the value of the contents.

THE ATLANTIC M. F. I. CO., of Exeter, N. H., takes the like risks; also Cotton and Woolen Mills, and nearly all risks usually insured in Stock Companies. This company insures 2½ times the value of the Building, and 1½ times the value of the contents.

THE HORSEY M. F. I. CO., of London, England, insures Risks; also Shops, Mills, Factories, and Manufacturing Establishments of some kind, but except those of Cotton and Wool. Its Policies range from \$5 to 25 per cent. per year.

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